

Base Briefs

CFC KICKS OFF AT VANDENBERG

The Combined Federal Campaign begins Monday and runs through Oct. 18. A Charity Expo today at the Pacific Coast Club features local charities participating in this year's event. Training for unit representatives begins at 9:30 a.m. in the warrior room.

BUSSES TAKE TROOPS TO POPS

The 30th Transportation Squadron will provide bus service to the Sept. 11 commemorative Pops concerts at Chapel 1.

For the 1 p.m. service, busses will leave the parade grounds between 11:45 a.m. and 12:45 p.m.

For the 7 p.m. service, busses make pick-ups at the 381st Training Group dormitory, the Pacific Coast Club and the Commissary between 6 and 6:45 p.m.

Busses will return to all pick-up points following the services. All bus stops will be clearly marked.

SENIOR LEADERS SERVE DINNER

The quarterly birthday meal at the Breakers Dining Facility begins at 5 p.m. Sept. 26.

Since the last birthday meal was canceled, this one will include enlisted members with birthdays between April and September.

Base senior leaders will serve the meal. First sergeants have menus and are taking sign-ups or call 606-3219.

UNIVERSITY NEEDS AF VOLUNTEERS

Fresno State University needs officer volunteers for its ROTC Career Day.

The AFROTC detachment is requesting officers from the following career fields: space, communications, security forces, nursing, intelligence, OSI, public affairs and legal.

Volunteers are asked to speak with cadets about education and training as well as duties and responsibilities of their respective career fields.

The career day is 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Oct. 3 and includes lunch. To sign up, call 2nd Lt. Donald Kentner at (559)278-2593 or e-mail dbkent@csufresno.edu.

MOBILE UNIT MASS ISSUES ID CARDS

Mass issue of the new Air Force ID card, the common access card, will take place Nov. 8 – Dec. 13. Cards will be issued by MPF customer service beginning Sept. 19 for those with expired cards only. For more information, call 2nd Lt. Amy Garrett, 605-4850.

MPF CLOSING FOR THREE DAYS

Vandenberg's Military Personnel Flight here will be closed Sept. 16 – 18 while equipment is installed to support issuing the new identification card. For emergencies, call 2nd Lt. Amy Garrett at 606-2276.



PHOTOS BY STAFF SGT. JENNIFER WALLIS

(Above) Team Vandenberg men and women head out to North Star Training Area Aug. 27 to set up camp at a simulated bare base during Foggy Shores 02-06. (Right) Staff Sgt. John Cogley, 30th Civil Engineer Squadron, stretches a tent cover over a frame at North Star.



Vandenberg thrives at North Star

BY 2ND LT. JENNIFER WHITAKER

30th Space Wing Public Affairs

■ One hundred forty-eight Vandenberg men and women from communications, services, civil engineering, security forces, and the medical group met with medical teams from F. E. Warren AFB, Wyo. and Los Angeles AFB to participate in Foggy Shores exercises here Aug. 26-28.

Members of Team V processed through a deployment line and headed out to North Star Training Area Aug. 26. The following day was all about training, and on Aug. 28, participants used what they had learned. Security Forces played opposition forces attempting to infiltrate the camp and simulating chemical, nuclear, and biological attacks.

"The exercise allows younger, less experienced personnel to practice bivouac or M.A.S.H.-like scenarios and learn neces-

sary skills for deployments," said Lt. Col. Bart Hedley, field commander at North Star. It also stresses Operational Risk Management and Command and Control testing, he said.

In order to ensure everyone is well-trained, Foggy Shores includes a training cadre made up of experts from various fields. Civil engineers spent most of the day Aug. 27, teaching classes on tent building, field sanitation, and concealing resources with camouflage netting.

"You learn by doing," said Tech. Sgt. Shawn Schepperle, training cadre member. "The more opportunity you get to come out here and do stuff like this, the better it prepares you for being deployed," he said. "You get better training when it's hands-on."

"Deployments are air-centric," said Capt. Milo Quesinberry, North Star's deputy field

commander. "Space doesn't deploy, so this exercise gives necessary training to people in support fields."

Training is what it's all about at North Star. While evaluators like Master Sgt. Mike Kalata can assess participants on a pass/fail system, he said the overriding goal of Foggy Shores is training. The evaluation team is there to test chemical, biological, and nuclear warfare readiness, tent construction, field sanitation, water management, and base recovery after attack. They also evaluate participants' reactions to situations that arise and the ability to survive and operate in a hostile environment.

Each exercise has a different objective according to Ed Rambus, 30th Space Wing chief of exercises and evaluations.

"These objectives can be the same for all units, such as demonstrating self-aid and buddy care or they can be different for each

unit participating in an exercise scenario," Rambus said.

Rambus shed some light on how the Exercise Evaluation Team compiles the results of the exercise.

"The EET meets shortly after the exercise has ended, normally the day after. We discuss how the exercise went and if there were any shortcomings by the EET in our planning or execution," he said. All evaluators provide validated and un-validated write-ups of the exercise. Those are put together first in a slide presentation for the wing commander's "hot wash" and second, after each write-up has been validated, into a final report, Rambus said.

The official results of this exercise will not be available until that process is complete sometime next week.

Foggy Shores exercises take place here each quarter as allowed by factors such as launch schedules, weather and AEF deployments.



U.S. AIR FORCE FILE PHOTO

Space Command is activated Sept. 1, 1982 under the command of Gen. James Hartinger.

Air Force Space Command marks 20 years in space

BY THE STAFF OF THE HEADQUARTERS AIR FORCE SPACE COMMAND HISTORY OFFICE

■ PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. - September marks the 20th anniversary of the command.

Compared to rest of the Air Force, space is new to the battlefield, but it has proved no less essential than any aircraft, ship or battalion. The history of the command is no less vibrant. And it all began just more than two decades ago....

THE FORMATION OF SPACE COMMAND

Studies and proposals during the late 1970s acknowledged the need for a change in the Air Force's organizational structure for space operations. In February 1979, the most important of these, the "Space Missions Organizational Planning

Study," explored future options and offered five alternatives ranging from continuation of the status quo to creation of an Air Force command for space.

On April 17, 1982, Gen. James V. Hartinger, commander in chief of North American Aerospace Defense Command and Air Defense Command, presented a plan showing how the Air Force might immediately create a major command for management of space resources on a par with the Strategic Air Command, Tactical Air Command, and Military Airlift Command. On June 21, with approval from Gen. Lew Allen, the Air Force Chief of Staff, the Air Force officially announced its decision to form Space Command effective Sept. 1 of that year.

During activation ceremonies for Space Command, Hartinger, as

its first commander, labeled its establishment as "a crucial milestone in the evolution of military space operations," and predicted the new command would "provide the operational pull to go with the technology push which has been the dominant factor in the space world since its inception."

The command grew quickly in the following year. During 1983, SAC passed to Space Command operational responsibility for a worldwide network of more than 25 space surveillance and missile warning sensors, as well as Peterson, the home of the new command.

In the early 1980s, the Air Force had added a number of systems, such as Ground-based Electro-Op

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Vandenberg lieutenants earn extra silver bar

SPACE & MISSILE TIMES STAFF

■ One hundred percent of Vandenberg's eligible first lieutenants were selected for promotion to captain. In the Air Force, 3,703 were selected of 3,725 eligible for an overall promotion rate of 99.6 percent.

THOSE PROMOTED ARE:

Joseph Augustine, 76th Helicopter Flight
Kris Barcomb, 2nd Space Launch Squadron
Suwannee Blachford, 14th Air Force
Ericka Brewington, 381st Training Support Squadron
Jennifer Campanella, 614th Space Operations Squadron
Ehren Carl, 2nd SLS
Carmelita Chadwick, 30th Comptroller Squadron
Eric Chin, 392nd Training Squadron
Ryan Dahlin, 76th HF
Ferdinand Desir, 30th Civil Engineer Squadron
Richard Domingo, Det 9, Space & Missile Systems Center
Jeffrey Efron, 30th Range Squadron
Erick Fonseca, 30th Operations

Support Squadron
Sean Ford, 2nd SLS
Robert Giles, 392nd TRS
Jason Glynn, 30th CES
James Helle, Det 9, SMC
Chintaporn Hiransomboon, 533rd Training Squadron
Kristen Hodge, 30th RANS
Jeremy Jarvis, 534th Training Squadron
Kendall Jordan, 2nd SLS
Ingrid Kaat, 533rd TRS
Peter Kim, 532nd Training Squadron
Rose Lathrop, 30th Operations Group
Paul Lucyk, 30th Weather Squadron
Robert Mattivi, 30th Security Forces Squadron
Jason McMahon, 2nd SLS
Chad Melone, Det 9, SMC
Richard Otton, 30th Contracting Squadron
William Parker III, 30th OSS
William Robinson, 30th CPTS
Michael Schupbach, 576th Flight Test Squadron
Jared Shaw, 30th Communications Squadron
Daniel Triplett, 30th CS
John Vinson, Det 9, SMC
Scot Washburn, 30th OSS
Kevin Wolf, Det 9, SMC
Dominick Young, 30th OSS

Voters must register to exercise rights

BY CRYSTAL JOHNSON

30th Mission Support Squadron

■ It's time again for Team Vandenberg to get to the polls and exercise their hard-earned right to vote. Voting season is fast approaching and in order to be prepared, people have to register.

Vandenberg's voting assistance officers are Michelle Miller and Master Sgt. Jerome Watkins and can be reached at 606-7138 and 605-2465. Anyone needing further assistance on voting matters, can visit the Air Force Personnel Center website or contact a unit voting representative.

One aspect of being in the military is being stationed far from home. While many creature comforts, like Sunday dinner at Mom's, have to be foregone, basic rights like voting, do not. Military members can apply for an absentee ballot. All states and territories accept the Federal Post Card Application to register and to request absentee ballots. Voters may also send a written request for a ballot to their county, city, town or parish clerk.

Learning the ins and outs of how to vote can be a

See VOTE Page 4

In this issue of the



Also view The Space & Missile Times at http://www.vandenberg.af.mil/30sw/news/space_times/index.html



Vandenberg remembers Sept. 11, 2001 See Page A2.



Destinations hits Pops by the Sea at Avila Beach See Page B1.

Weekend forecast Low clouds in the morning and evening with clear afternoon skies.



Low/High 53/65

For a full VAFB weather report visit www.vandenberg.af.mil/30sw/organizations/30og/weather/weather_index.html



PHOTO BY ARMY SGT. CARMEN BURGESS

An estimated 200-foot section of the Pentagon's west wall lies in ruins after a hijacked airliner crashed into the building Sept. 11, 2001. The Pentagon attack killed 184 people -- 125 Pentagon workers, 53 passengers and six crew members. The figures do not include the hijackers.



PHOTO COURTESY OF REUTERS

The World Trade Center twin towers just moments after the second aircraft crashed into the south tower. New York City police officials recently adjusted the death toll to 2,807 and expect the number to fall further. The toll includes the 127 passengers and 20 crew members aboard the fated flights. It does not include the terrorists.

9/11/01 Lest We Forget

By MASTER SGT. TY FOSTER

30th Space Wing Public Affairs

■ When terrorists hijacked West Coast-bound aircraft and crashed them into the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, the nation and Team Vandenberg were stunned.

Team V's many organizations continue to support the War on Terror effort. Below are some of the actions taken in the weeks and months immediately after Sept. 11:

- ♦ In an unprecedented move, force protection condition levels rose to FPCON Delta and 24-hour operations began.
- ♦ More than 700 people packed into the base chapel to pay tribute to the victims of the Sept. 11 attacks in a National Day of Prayer Sept. 14.
- ♦ Between Sept. 21 and 28, more than 20 people deployed from Vandenberg in support of Operations Enduring Freedom and Noble Eagle.

BASE TEAMS WITH POPS FOR SEPT. 11 EVENTS

■ All Team V members are highly encouraged to attend the following events planned for Sept. 11:

- ♦ Meditation and remembrance, Chapel 1, 1 p.m.
- ♦ Commemorative Concert, Chapel 1, 7 p.m.

These events will feature performances by the Lompoc Pops Orchestra. This concert series was made possible by generous donations from: Santa Maria Valley Chamber of Commerce, Armed Forces Bank and Vandenberg Federal Credit Union. Seating is limited to about 700 people.

- ♦ The 30th Services Squadron kicked off its Thursday Family Night Out program Oct. 11 allowing families of deployed members to dine at the Breakers Dining Facility.
- ♦ "As we look at how we can use our technology in combating terrorism, Vandenberg will play a key role," said Gen. Ed Eberhart, former AFSPC commander, during

- a visit to Vandenberg Oct. 15.
- ♦ Base officials kicked off Project Noble Support, a fundraising campaign to benefit victims of the Pentagon attack. Team V and local community groups raised more \$11,870 by doing everything from washing cars and playing softball to making and selling quilts.
- ♦ Answering a challenge from

AF Space Command commander remembers a year ago, a lifetime ago



Gen. Lance Lord
Commander
Air Force Space Command

"We couldn't tell what had happened until we got out of the building and saw the black smoke coming over the top of the Pentagon."

By GEN. LANCE LORD

Commander,
Air Force Space Command

It was a year ago when terrorists attacked the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, and much has happened to us Americans since that day, especially those of us in the military. Sept. 11 has become our generation's Pearl Harbor. We, like those listening to the radio that Sunday morning in 1941, will

always remember where we were and what we were doing that day. The images of that day, of terror and the heroism that followed, will be forever etched on my memory because I saw it firsthand. I was there in the Pentagon when the third plane hit.

We had gathered that Tuesday morning for our usual staff meeting for the Air Force chief of staff. The Secretary of the Air Force, Dr. James Roche and others from the secretariat and Air Staff were in attendance. I was the assistant vice chief of staff and Gen. John Jumper, our new chief of staff, had just started his first official duty day. We had just gone through the intelligence briefing when one of the technicians turned the briefing screen on to CNN. A plane had hit one tower of the World Trade Center and we sat mesmerized by the scenes of billowing smoke. As soon as the second plane hit the tower, the chief closed his book and said: "We're under attack." We all sat there in stunned disbelief for a few seconds, then we quickly went back to our offices. On our way back, we heard there was another plane inbound to Washington. That's all we knew.



PHOTO BY TECH. SGT. CEDRIC RUDISILL

This aerial photograph of the Pentagon taken on Sept. 14, 2001, shows some of the destruction caused when the hijacked American Airlines flight slammed into the building on Sept. 11.

I was in the vice chief's office, next to mine, when we heard a dull thud and felt some sort of shock or vibration. Alarms started going off. Since one of my duties included building evacuation in case of emergency, I went out in the hall to do what I could. Someone was yelling: "A bomb went off! A bomb went off!" We worked on the other side of the building from where the plane had hit so we knew little of the real situation. I went up and down the E-ring, shouting: "Everyone evacuate! Please get out of the building!" Fortunately, we had practiced an evacuation of the building during a mass casualty exercise just a month earlier, so our assembly points were fresh in our minds. Purely a coincidence, the scenario for that exercise included a plane hitting the building. We couldn't tell what had happened until we got out of the building and saw the black smoke coming over the top of the Pentagon. People who had evacuated were milling around, at first not knowing what to do. I told them to go home, if they had their keys, and to take someone with them. As I went back into the building, past the police keeping those evacuated from returning, there was an electrical burning smell in the air and I saw someone running down the corridor. His front was black from

the soot and fire and I noticed that, oddly, his back was just fine. It was untouched. I saw people taking it upon themselves to help out. Some put blankets on those who were hurt while others directed the flow of people. I saw people comforting each other in the parking lot; it didn't matter who they were. I saw chaos; but not panic. Later that night, I saw Gen. Richard Myers, chairman of the joint chiefs of staff, and Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld walking down the corridor; shirtsleeves were rolled up...dirty from helping people. I realized then, as others did, that this single event had awakened us from our routine lives. It was an amazing transformation. The nation was once again reminded how important those who serve really are. Everyone, regardless of job, was critical to the response and the team really came together. On this anniversary, I suspect we'll see many images in the papers and on TV from a year ago and it's good to remember that day. Along with the scenes of chaos in New York, the destruction at the Pentagon, and the heroism over Pennsylvania, it's important to remember two things -- America is strong and we are fortunate to serve this great country. Defending our values and freedoms is a noble goal and I'm proud to serve with you.

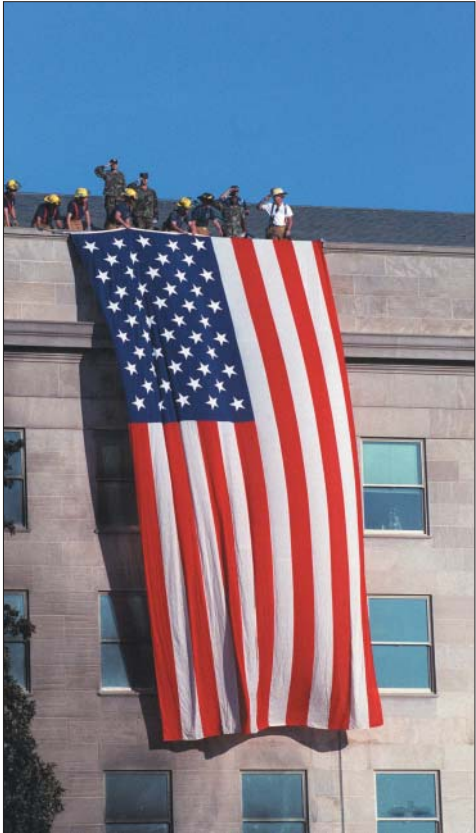


PHOTO BY R. D. WARD

Fire fighters and military personnel unfurl a large American Flag from the roof of the Pentagon during the Sept. 12, 2001, visit of President George W. Bush to the site of the previous day's terrorist attack.

Your stories on 9/11

Editors Note: The Space & Missile Times is honored to share the thoughts and experiences of some of our readers. The stories these Team V members tell reflect the varied lives we lead and how a single event can affect each person differently. Photos by Airman 1st Class Kara McCormick.

Attacks leave former WTC worker wondering about friends, family

By STAFF SGT. PATTY STULL
148th Space Operations Squadron

I was alone with a 5-week-old baby and a 10-year-old son. My husband was TDY and I was still recovering from my C-section. I couldn't get through to my mother in New York City, who lives near the World Trade Center because all circuits were busy.

I used to work at the WTC Tower 2. I worked for Dean Witter Reynolds. That was a long time ago, but I still remember my friends there: Dawn, Sandy, Anne Marie, David, Merrill and Janet. I will always wonder what happened to these people.

I will always think about why I never manage to find the time to fulfill those promises we all make about keeping in touch.



Smoking towers shock family, shatter child's innocent view

By ROBIN MCCURRY
Spouse

Like so many others that day, we woke up to more than one alarm. As we do everyday, we turned on the *Today* show and saw the smoke. I thought there must be a tape in the VCR of the '93 attack. So, I checked and, sure enough, it was real.

For about the first half hour, we just sat there stunned and as my husband put on his uniform I realized it was a school day and we still had to function.

When it was time to wake up our 5-year-old for school we didn't know whether to send him or just keep the family together -- not knowing what might come our way. I called the school to find out if it would be in session -- it was.

I talked with some other mothers and we decided it would be best to keep the children away from TV and news -- to make it as normal of a day as possible. At school, his teacher told us where the emergency pick up area was in case anything went wrong.

A few days later I asked my 5-year-old if he realized what had happened and he told me, three planes flew into the White House. I guess he understood more than I thought he did.



Cop meets wayward truck driver, ends up breathing sigh of relief

By STAFF SGT. GREGORY MYERS
30th Security Forces Squadron

The morning of 9/11 began for me at around 6 a.m. with a phone call. I was roused from a dead sleep by the voice of my sister-in-law who lives in Ohio. I don't remember much about the conversation except that she was in a panic about a plane crash in New York City.

I told her to calm down and I went to go turn on CNN. Her closing words to me were, "We're going to war."

I turned on the television and as soon as I saw what was going on, I went to prepare for a long day at work. The 30th Security Forces Squadron was alive with activity when I arrived. I was promptly armed and sent to guard Coast Gate with another staff sergeant -- an individual mobilization augmentee who just happened to be in for duty that day. We arrived at our post and tuned the radio in to listen to Dan Rather relate to the events as they unfolded. The twin towers collapsed and we listened on in awe.

At about 11 a.m., a plain white big rig truck pulled up to Coast Gate. It had no markings on the cab or the trailer. I looked at my partner in the patrol car and he shrugged. The truck cab door opened, and out stepped a man wearing sandals dressed with flowing pants, white tunic, wearing a turban on his head. My heart sank into my feet.

We approached the man with our weapons at port-arms and called for assistance. Backup arrived quickly, and we searched the truck thoroughly.

The poor, scared truck driver was simply lost, carrying a load of artichokes to a packing company in Lompoc. He was completely unaware of the events of the day.

We turned him around and sent him on his way and we all breathed a big sigh of relief -- thankful that we were not another news story for the day.



Travelers hurry home to children, So. Cal freeways seem barren

By RAYMOND HARPER
30th Communications Squadron

My wife and I were attending a seminar in San Diego while our two kids stayed with friends in Lompoc. We had spent the previous evening in Tijuana but were preparing for a busy day of meetings. As I checked my day planner, my wife sat on the hotel bed to watch the morning news.

"Honey, there's a fire in the World Trade Center," she said. I turned toward the TV just in time to see the second attack.

For the next hour, we watched as they hit the Pentagon and as the two towers fell to the ground. All we could do is sit there -- numb in disbelief. We knew we needed to be home, with our kids, so we quickly packed and were on the road by 9 a.m.

The drive home was surreal. Freeways were normally bumper-to-bumper seemed empty. The Long Beach Airport was overflowing with aircraft and exits to LAX were blocked with LAPD armed with shotguns and automatic rifles.

Radio stations were feeding information about where to go to pray for our nation and the thousands lost during the attack.

When we got home, all we wanted to do was hug our kids and tell them how much we loved them.

Looking back, we know America isn't the same place we lived in before 9/11. It's not if we'll be attacked again, but when and by whom? Somehow we must balance the freedoms we enjoy as Americans with the security we expect as Americans. But, whatever happens, we WILL endure, and we WILL remain strong as Americans.



Mom preps for 9/11 daughter's first birthday, reflects on feelings

By STEFANIE EDWARDS
Spouse

I was in the hospital waiting to give birth to our first child. I have never felt such a range of emotions before.

We were in the labor room watching T.V. when the tragedy happened. I was confused. What

was happening? I felt sadness for all the people who lost their lives. I felt guilt. I felt selfish for wanting to bring a child into such an awful world where people are capable of creating such chaos.

My baby's birth was close -- I was getting excited. But that excitement was clouded. Am I allowed to feel joyful when such a tragedy has occurred? She was born at 1:59 p.m. Sept. 11.

It's almost a year and I would like to think of it as getting close to her birthday, but I also know it will be a somber day of memorial and reflection. I feel angry -- angry at what they did and angry because it should be her special day. In time, I hope my thoughts can drift to realizing she is a symbol of how life goes on and that miracles can happen in the midst of tragedy.



Osama bin Laden spurs family to appreciate each day, each other

By BRANDI LEA NASH
Spouse

I awoke to the sound of the front door slamming and my husband racing up the stairs to our bedroom. I was just beginning to sit up in bed when he came into the room and turned on our TV. He asked me if I knew anyone in New York and I told him I didn't think so. He explained to me that he had been working out at the gym when he had heard that the World Trade Center towers had been hit by planes. We watched, in shock, the horrific scene unfold on TV. It was the first time I had ever heard of the name Osama bin Laden. I watched TV that entire day, called my mom, and held my son tightly. I was supposed to go to a class that night — everything was canceled — as if we were all trying to stop time. Today, I am focused on what is really important in my life. I keep in touch with friends and family more than ever before. I tell my husband and our son how much I love them everyday. I have also realized that I do not have as much control over my life as I thought I had. There is a much higher power that determines how much time we have on this earth — so make each and everyday count.



LG captain watches Pentagon recovery from nearby rooftop

By CAPT. ROBERT MEYER
30th Supply Flight

Sitting in a government building, two blocks from the Pentagon, developing the course training plan with members of the installation and logistics staff assigned to the Pentagon, we got the call letting us know there had been an aircraft that struck one of the World Trade Center buildings. About 20 minutes later, we received the second phone call on the attack on the second tower. We realized it could be no accident. About 40 minutes later, fire alarm sounded. As we evacuated our building, we received word an aircraft had skidded off of a helicopter pad into the Pentagon. As we exited, pieces of smoldering tarpaper, apparently from the Pentagon roof, were floating to the ground. We immediately headed toward the Pentagon amidst the chaos, but quickly realized all traffic headed that way was stopped for security and emergency response teams. We climbed to the top of a 16-story apartment complex of a person assigned to the Pentagon. It overlooked the scene. We learned of the hijacking of another aircraft that may be headed to Washington D.C. It eventually went down in Pennsylvania. We wondered if we were safe. Hearing F-16s overhead, realized we were in very capable hands. Watching the attack over and over again on CNN, I personally was deeply saddened, but at the same time very angry. Over time, I've asked God to help me forgive our attackers and I believe I've done so. When I look back, I believe the attacks provided an opportunity for a pouring out of God's blessings in compassion, service, and brotherly love on a level that has not been experienced in many decades.



NCO lends hand in building new forward-operating AEF locations

MASTER SGT. STEVEN BENESH
30th Transportation Squadron

On 9/11, I was on flight to a base in the Middle East when the flight crew announced that the first World Trade Center tower had been struck by a plane. Everyone on the flight had looks of disbelief and wonderment. As soon as we landed, while waiting for my baggage, I heard another announcement that the other tower had been struck. I got my bags and rushed to my truck in fear of some retaliation that may come from the local nationals. During my drive home, I turned on the radio and could not believe my ears — it was actually true. When I reached my house, all of my co-workers were waiting for me. Our lives changed in many different ways following 9/11. As permanent party personnel in the Middle East, we had to watch our every move, go out in groups, set curfews and check in times. During the next few weeks, we made plans for a group of people to arrive and start setting up the bare bases in the region. In the weeks that followed, thousands of U.S. troops landed at our base. I was amazed at our ability to move mass amounts of personnel and equipment in such a short time frame. We went from a couple hundred people on a bare base before Sept. 11 to a full Air Expeditionary Wing within two months. Unfortunately, I witnessed Operation ENDURING FREEDOM's first death. A fellow serviceman lost his life in a fork lift accident. Our super fast moving operation came to a halt. The whole base regrouped, grieved, then pressed on with what had to be done — build the forward locations that would ultimately protect our homeland. I've seen many troops making their way to the bases that we set up back in September 2001. I am glad to have been there serving and sweating to make it happen.



Fate deals life-saving hand when Pentagon tour is rescheduled

By 2nd LT. KELLY GABEL
30th Space Wing Public Affairs

I was a shiny new non-prior lieutenant attending tech school at Ft. Meade, Md. Learning how to be a Public Affairs Officer, I couldn't wait to finish training so I could start telling the Air Force story. And I couldn't wait for our class tour of the Pentagon, which was scheduled for the morning of Sept. 11. On Sept. 9, we heard that our tour was canceled due to a scheduling conflict with no new date given. I felt gyped. That was what I was most looking forward to. I walked into my classroom Sept. 11 and CNN was on. I thought it might be another training scenario. Part of our course was learning how to respond to various mishaps and tragedies. It didn't seem possible that what I was witnessing was real life being stolen, real freedom being threatened — and a new reality dawning that no scenario would ever have prepared me for. I grieved with the rest of the world that day. My parents, who still thought I was at the Pentagon, were afraid of the worst. I couldn't call them — the lines were jammed. When I finally reached them, their voices trembled with fear and relief. It gave me my first real glimpse of what families go through when their loved ones are serving far away. I am still considered a new Lt. I am still non-prior. And though I am a lot less shiny, I am no less eager to be here, or anywhere I'm called, to tell the Air Force story.



Task proves invaluable, NCO finds his name on victim list

By STAFF SGT. KEVIN WILLIAMS
381st Training Support Squadron

My morning started like any other. I played tag with the snooze button and eventually dragged myself out of bed. I was in the shower when my wife came in screaming something about terrorists and airplanes. "This is going to be a long morning," I thought. For the rest of the day, I checked IDs at our building's entrance. I stood in the lobby with a retired master sergeant who told me war stories of his days as a cop overseas protecting dignitaries. It didn't make things go any faster. That was my total contribution that September day — a menial task that was made invaluable overnight. Last week, I was looking through a list of attack victims. From the 104th floor of Tower Two, there was a gentleman listed who was one year younger with my exact same name — Kevin Michael Williams. He's still missing. I'm sure his morning also started out like any other, too.



It's a family affair; 9/11 stirs mom to act

By MASTER SGT. TY FOSTER
30th Space Wing Public Affairs

Like most Americans, the Sept. 11, 2001, news broadcasts of the airplanes crashing into the World Trade Center, watching the towers collapse and the Pentagon scorched by fire moved Tobie Wethington deeply. "Initially, we were in a state of shock," said the 30-year-old mother of three. She and her husband, Brian, sat, like thousands of others, glued to the TV watching CNN. "Those images will be with us forever, especially those of the people jumping from the burning building," she said. "We still cannot see the numbers 911 in anything without thinking of that day." She'd been out of the Air Force for a little over a year having earned her associates degree in computer programming and networking. "I left the military because I thought my priorities had changed," she said. "I believed that I wasn't prepared to serve the way the military wanted me to. Since I felt I couldn't give up my family time to serve, I left to pursue another future." So, after 8.5 years of Air Force service, she left her position in the consolidated supply squadron at Langley AFB, Va., in July 2000. She and Brian packed up and moved to Farmington, N.M., where they'd met in 1990. She was a member of the New Mexico Air National Guard and their family was there. "It was nice but too far from the ocean," she said. They moved to Jacksonville, Fla., where Wethington was a computer technician for America Online and her husband was a station manager for United Express Airlines. They were content there. Brian home-schooled their children. They visited the theme parks and museums in the area. "9/11 shook our world up," she said. How strange it was to be sitting in my living room, watching this attack in my own backyard and not be part of America's greatest fighting force." It was personal. "Not that we had family there, but they were our family none-the-less," Wethington said. "So we put off my dream of becoming a computer programmer for a few years — 10 or so — and do what we feel is more important for the generations to come." A week after 9/11, she was in the local recruiter's office. It was a mutual decision. "I believe a family serves in the military, not just the airman," Wethington said. "My husband and children had to be willing to let me devote time, because of possible long hours, TDYs and deployments — I knew I couldn't do it without their support." She'd changed in the 10 years since her first enlistment in December 1991. Describing her mindset back then, she said, "I'd joined because I didn't have any real direction in my life. I just needed something with purpose and the Air Force was it." As a Guard member and with Stop-Loss in effect after 9/11, she had some red tape to get through. By the time she re-enlisted Jan. 4, she knew she'd made the right choice. "I was doing it for a patriotic purpose," the staff sergeant said. "I knew what I was getting into." She also knew that, as a prior enlisted member, she'd get the first assignment choice on her dream sheet. She didn't stay in the supply field, though. Instead, she went to technical school for three months at Sheppard AFB, Texas, where she learned to be a pharmacy technician. After a three-week stint of clinical work at Lackland AFB, she headed for California's Central Coast. Here, her family's life has changed. "Besides moving from one ocean to another, it's given us an outlet for our frustration over 9/11," Wethington said. "No, we're not trekking through Afghanistan trying to capture the bad guy, but we have a better understanding of the part that we play in our nation's defense." She likens the feeling she has about Air Force service now to "the re-blueing" of professional military education. "We feel like that, only stronger," she said. "My husband is more understanding when I come home later or when I was gone TDY for training." She's proud of her family and the sacrifices they've made for her to serve. Her professional priorities have changed, too. "Things that were once such a big deal to me, like some of our 'nit-picky' regulations, seem more important to me," she said. "I have a greater sense of pride in what I'm doing." She's carrying on a family tradition of military service — again. Both of her brothers serve — one Air Force, one Marine. Her father, grandfather and great



PHOTOS BY AIRMAN 1st CLASS KARA MCCORMICK

(Above) The Wethington family (clockwise from lower left): Tobie, Grady, 3, husband Brian, Kara, 8, and Leslie, 9, share a moment together. (Right) The Sept. 11, 2001 attacks prompted Staff Sgt. Tobie Wethington, now a 30th Medical Group pharmacy technician, to re-enlist after 15 months of civilian life.



grandfather served in Vietnam, World War II and World War I, respectively. It's that sense of service that matters now. Recently, she said, one of her airmen asked her how becoming a pharmacy technician would help in the War on Terrorism — she was stumped for an answer — until now. "When I decided to come back in, it wasn't with a specific job in mind," Wethington said. "It didn't matter. Because, somehow I knew that, no matter what the job was, it would have more significance toward defending this country than the one I was in as a computer technician." She wanted to be part of the national defense team. "I only wish that some of our newer troops could understand how important they are in this War on Terrorism — wherever they are," the pharmacy tech said. "I hope that one day, they'll also feel that it was worthwhile — giving their time and dedication — serving their country — no matter how long they stay with the Air Force." She's not content with status quo. She's working on her degree in information technology and when she graduates from the University of Phoenix, she'll apply to become an officer. "Whether or not that goes through, we will be retiring from the Air Force," she said. It's true that, like most Americans, Staff Sgt. Tobie Wethington was moved by the events of 9/11. What sets her above many is that she took action.

Captain shares view, feelings of 9/11's impact

By CAPT. DAN WETMORE
2nd Space Launch Squadron

SEPT. 11, 2001 It was just another bleary Tuesday morning's ministrations, jockeying with the clock to get out the door, and the phone rings. At the other end — my wife's mother — two time zones away. Strange that she's calling at 7 a.m. — doubly strange that she wants her daughter to put her son-in-law on.



At a loss for anything else, I ask how she's doing. "The question," she asks, "is how are you doing?" I turn on the TV to find "Blues Clues" banished this morning. And if the sun wasn't just rising, I'd enjoy the impressive realism of the prime-time docudrama unfolding before me, safe behind the protective barrier of make believe that most television in our house is. Instead, standing in uniform in quarters where a long ago lieutenant viewed the Tet Offensive, an unknown major first saw men walk the moon and a different captain watched a wall being torn down — it's my time to witness history pouring out. The scene is surreal, made more so by the claire-voyeristic aspect of watching what looks like other people's events, still two hours in my West Coast future, already an hour in New York City's past. At work, standing still in unfocus, activity goes on all around. I marvel at it, wondering if this is the best reaction or substitute for it. I fight down feelings of helplessness — a gnawing frustration that, right now, given our removal from today's violence, the two might be one and the same. Self-conscious about my immobility, I move to match others' motions. But, I still feel outside it all — a spectator to some contest being played out according to rules I don't understand. SEPT. 14, 2001 Four days later, Friday, I head to the club. I need to be surrounded by others who also clump around in boots on a daily basis. I'm still not sure what I'm feeling, thereby lack words to express it. When that happens, we go to family, for whom words aren't needed and from whom none are demanded. There, in the press of people I'm regarding as an embrace, I sit at a far table. The corner TV feeds our regained focus on the world's growing pains. I hope they really are nothing more than the pains of growing up. OCT. 18, 2001 The flags flying maypole around the Minuteman III are still hanging half mast. It angers me. They're like men bowed, looking to their feet; like the trees of the season, half undressed as they lose their leaves to don the raiment of the season of death. I don't like it. I am ready to start moving through and beyond — to something else. JUNE 14, 2002 Flags are everywhere. And not just because it's the second Friday in June and I'm standing high on a hillside, looking down on six acres of uncommonly uniform larkspurs. Usually on such occasions, the trappings of an observance fall off as you move farther from its center, just as waves tend to diminish as they propagate outward. But not this one. If I had the eyes for it, I could spy that same density of Ruby, Sapphire and Lapis marching up H



PHOTO BY CAPT. JIM FABIO

Rescuers desperately try to find survivors in the rubble of the south tower of the World Trade Center in New York City, destroyed by a terrorist airliner crash Sept. 11, 2001.

Street, across Buellton, along the Rockies, through Kansas, over the Alleghenies. AUG. 19, 2002 Waking to clocks blinking nonsense numbers in the pre-dawn, I'm aware of how otherwise dark it is — power outage. I go to the window — not to confirm, but to see if there might be men running down Korina. It's too soon after sleep to be a conscious thought — it's just reflex. Waking enough to realize that, and knowing how reflexes are built, I see the shockwaves of 11 months removed are still rippling, strangely un-dampened by time. Those waves, like the dreams I just left, linger below the surface — a constant, unconscious stimulus that moves me in ways I can't always anticipate. Sometimes it's for the good — when I hold my 6-year-old's gaze for extra seconds — striving to see beyond sight more palpably and succeed in magnifying the moment large enough to be lived in. Or, when fumbling through the kindnesses strangers make to those who've suffered loss. Or watching an irritation, a friction, dissolve into nothing, sharing a knowing glance with another who saw it, too — one that says, "This isn't really important." Sometimes for the bad — snapping at shadows that are only shadows. Seeing solicitation where there was only an expression of concern; or drawing back into a private pity; using my arms only to hold myself instead of another who could use them more. AUG. 25, 2002 So we carry scars. But, we work at our physical therapies struggling to reclaim/maintain the freedom of motion we knew before, perhaps even gain some new strength, flexibility. We hope time diminishes the pain and sustains the passion both. The scars we carry are indelible record of blows received, but the fact that we still carry them, carry

SPACE: Command plays first major role on military operations during Desert Storm

From Page 1
tical Deep Space Surveillance System, called GEODSS, to the Space Detection and Tracking System network with the intention of enhancing the capabilities of the system. The operational mission of the new command revolved around these systems as well as others transferred from SAC such as the Defense Support Program, the Ballistic Missile Early Warning System and PAVE Phased-Array Warning System (popularly known as PAVE PAWS) radars. DSP, along with the Defense Meteorological Satellite Program, were the first satellite constellations operated by the command.

In 1985, Space Command was redesignated Air Force Space Command.

SATELLITE CONTROL
From their earliest days, Air Force Systems Command, or its predecessor Air Research and Development Command, controlled most Air Force launch systems and satellites. With a primary emphasis on research and development, Systems Command was not sufficiently operations-oriented to meet the needs of space systems users — the warfighters.

After its formation, AFPSC immediately began to work toward the eventual assumption of the satellite telemetry, tracking, and commanding mission with the opening of the Consolidated Space Operations Center at Falcon Air Force Station, Colo., in September 1985. The process continued in October 1987, when the command assumed responsibility for the Air Force Satellite Control Network from Systems Command, including its numerous worldwide remote tracking stations. Subsequently, the Consolidated Space Operations Cen-

ter operations facilities gradually took over command and control responsibilities for most Air Force satellites including the NAVSTAR Global Positioning System, the Defense Satellite Communication System, DMSP, the DSP and Milstar.

In June 1992, SAC transferred Air Force Satellite Communications, or AFSATCOM, responsibility to AFSPC.

DESERT STORM: THE FIRST “SPACE WAR”
It was not until the 1991 Persian Gulf War that these systems had a major impact on the conduct of military operations. U.S. ground forces used GPS satellite data to easily navigate the nearly featureless desert landscape — even at night. DMSP weather satellites provided vital data on sandstorms, surface winds and other conditions that affected our troops and air operations.

DSP early warning satellites provided the essential first warning of Iraqi Scud missile attacks on coalition bases and Saudi and Israeli cities. Although delivered via an ad hoc reporting arrangement, this vital “heads up” assisted U.S. Patriot missile batteries in engaging many incoming Scuds. The Gulf War then was the first major conflict in which the American military heavily relied on support from space systems.

The demonstrated usefulness of space systems during this conflict and their obvious undeveloped potential for further use would lead to a major rethinking over the next several years of the role of space systems in warfighting.

CONTINUED GROWTH IN THE 1990s
Two significant additions to the command during the 1990s brought

the command to its current operational state.

First, on Oct. 1, 1990, the Air Force transferred control of all operational space lift vehicles to AFSPC. Over the next four years, AFSPC assumed launch responsibility for ATLAS E, Atlas II, Delta II, Titan II, and Titan IV missions from Cape Canaveral AFS, Fla., and Vandenberg AFB, Calif.

Second, the Minuteman and Peacekeeper ICBMs, the only remaining purely strategic Air Force systems, transferred to AFSPC on July 1, 1993, thus aligning these vital assets with the rest of the Air Force space mission. As part of this action, AFSPC took over 20th Air Force, six missile wings, and one test and training wing. Finally, to create a similar organizational framework for the command’s space assets, all missile warning, space surveillance, and satellite control units were organized under 14th Air Force.

AIR FORCE SPACE COMMAND IN THE POST COLD WAR ERA

Because the new command matured rapidly during the 1980s and ’90s, as did the importance of space to the Air Force, Air Force chief of staff, Gen. Merrill McPeak, officially changed the Air Force Mission Statement, on July 19, 1992, to read: “Defend the United States through control and exploitation of air and space.”

In 1992 the Air Force’s Blue Ribbon Panel on Space recommended the creation of an organization to examine the capabilities of space-based systems and their application to warfighting. Dedicated in December 1993, the AFSPC’s Space Warfare Center, located at Falcon (later Schriever) AFB, formed to develop and test concepts, applications and procedures to enable

the warfighter to more fully utilize the unique capabilities of space-based systems and products.

One of the first fruits of the SWC’s efforts was the Attack and Launch Early Reporting to Theater, or ALERT, system, designed to provide theater missile warning using DSP satellite detection capability and created a permanent reporting structure. ALERT reached initial operational capability in March 1995. The SWC quickly grew to include a number of test organizations and a Space Battle Lab. Opened in June 1997, the Space Battle Lab developed innovative operational and logistical concepts employing space systems and capabilities and tested them in a laboratory or operational venues.

As the threat of nuclear war with the republics of the former Soviet Union diminished as a result of treaty reductions of weapons and a change in focus among those nations, AFSPC began to pare down the missile warning network to reflect the changing strategic situation.

With much of the former Soviet submarine fleet rusting in port, the threat of a submarine-launched ballistic missile attack against the United States was greatly reduced. Accordingly, AFSPC deactivated the PAVE PAWS radar sites at Eldorado AFS, Texas, and Robins



PHOTO BY THOM ROGERS

An Atlas II AS takes off Sept. 8, 2001, 19 years after the activation of Air Force Space Command.

AFB, Ga., in July 1995, which in turn facilitated the much-needed system upgrade to the BMEWS site at Clear AFS, Alaska. Arms control agreements led to reductions in the nation’s nuclear arsenal and the inactivation of three of AFSPC’s missile organizations, the 44th and 351st Missile Wings and the 321st Missile Group.

Another byproduct of the reduction of Cold War tensions was a major wave of cost-reduction measures in the early 1990s aimed at reducing staff and eliminating redundancy. As part of this effort, in 1994 the White House directed the merging of the Air Force and National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration’s weather

satellite programs, and, in 1998, AFSPC transferred control of DMSP to NOAA.

As AFSPC moved into the 21st Century, the outlook for space operations and systems continued to improve. New initiatives and systems, such as the Space-Based Infrared System DSP follow-on, would soon change the way the command did business.

Also on Jan. 11, 2001, the Space Commission, chartered by Congress, issued a report recommending significant organizational realignment and increased space responsibilities for the Air Force. On May 8, Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld announced a major national security space management and organizational initiative and designated the Air Force as the Department of Defense executive agent for space.

Subsequently, on Oct. 1, 2001, the Air Force reassigned Space and Missile Systems Center from Air Force Materiel Command to AFSPC. This realignment gave AFSPC control of the planning and requirements development for all technological aspects of USAF launch vehicles, spacecraft and missiles.

On the same date, AFSPC activated the 460th Air Base Wing to manage Buckley AFB, Colo., an installation transferred to the command from the Colorado Air National Guard one year earlier.

Since its birth in 1982, Air Force Space Command has progressed from being a promising new command to a command that, as Hartinger predicted 20 years ago: “Provides the operational pull to go with the technology push which has been the dominant factor in the space world since its inception.”

VOTE: Law allows military, dependents to vote absentee

From Page 1

little daunting for some. That’s why the Air Force has voting assistance officers assigned to each installation. Specific information on applying for absentee registration and ballots is contained in the 2002-2003 Voting Assistance Guide. Hard copies of the guide are available from voting assistance officers. It’s also available on CD-ROM.

Since registration requirements vary from state to state, Chapter 3 of the guide gives specifics on each state’s requirements. Many states and territories allow the citizen to register and request an absentee ballot by submitting a single Federal Post Card Application. However, other states may require the use of two separate forms, one to register, and a second to request an absentee ballot.

Applications must be sent to the voter’s state or territory of legal voting residence. A list of addresses for county and local election officials is available in the voting assistance guide. At present, there are no provisions for submitting the FPCA through the Internet.

Some states and territories require a separate application for each election. However, many states and territories accept a single FPCA for all ballots issued during an election year. When in doubt, voters should send a separate application for each election.

In an attempt to prevent voting fraud, some states require Federal Post Card Applications to be notarized. Generally, election materials may be witnessed or sworn to before a notary, U.S. commissioned officer, embassy or consular officer or other official authorized to administer oaths. Since most states and

territories do not require notarization of the FPCA or ballot, military members should consult Chapter 3 of the guide to determine their state or territory’s requirements. In all instances, the application must be signed.

There is good news when it comes to postage for voting materials. Generally, all election-related material is mailed postage paid from any post office in the U.S. Voters must pay postage only if the materials are mailed from a non-U.S. postal facility.

Timing is important when it comes to submitting applications and requesting ballots. Generally, election officials should receive ballot requests at least forty-five days before Election Day to allow ample time to process the request and mail the ballot. If applying for registration and an absentee ballot, the FPCA may need to be mailed earlier. Chapter 3 of the voting assistance guide gives information on state and territorial deadlines. Voters must also be sure to advise election officials of any changes in their address.

Under normal circumstances, most states and territories begin mailing ballots to citizens 30-45 days before an election. The Federal Voting Assistance Program’s Ombudsman Service can assist in determining when a ballot was mailed if it is not received within two weeks of an election. Voters should always complete and return their absentee ballot regardless of when they receive it. Court decisions sometimes require the counting of ballots voted by Election Day, but received late.

Military members may vote in the state or territory where they are stationed if they change their legal residence to that state or territory. This applies even


if they live on a military installation. Members must also consider the legal obligations that may be incurred, such as taxation, when changing their state or territory of residence. The base legal office can offer advice before making such a decision. At the present time, there are no provisions for Americans stationed outside the United States to vote, in person, where they’re stationed.

Military members aren’t the only ones able to vote absentee. The law entitles eligible family members of military personnel to vote absentee as well. Family members are considered to be in the same category of absentee voter as military members and generally should follow the same procedures. Family members of military personnel residing overseas, who are U.S. citizens and who have never resided in the U.S., usually claim one of their parents’ legal state of residence as their own.

There is no tax penalty to American citizens for voting in elections for Federal offices only. Voting in an election for *Federal office* may not be used as the sole basis to determine residency for the purpose of imposing state and local taxes. Voters who claim a particular state or territory as their residence and have additional ties to that state or territory, may then be liable for state and local taxation, depending upon that particular state or territorial law.

Consult the 2002-2003 Voting Assistance Guide for information on probable tax obligations.

Editor’s Note: This article is based on information provided on the Federal Voting Assistance Program Web site at www.fvap.ncr.gov.



Fighter test team puts safety first

By LEIGH ANNE BIERSTINE
Air Force Flight Test Center Public Affairs

■ **EDWARDS AFB, Calif.** - With planning for the Joint Strike Fighter flight-test program in high gear, experts from the JSF integrated test force here are focusing on the high-tech safety designs the new fighter will offer future aircrews.

Both the Air Force and the Navy will conduct testing on all of the JSF variants, including the Air Force, Navy and Marine versions as well as the foreign version of the aircraft. Once test pilots begin evaluating the JSF, they will be looking at several key features that have been designed specifically for its pilots and ground crews.

The fighter's most unique safety characteristic is its prognostic health management system, which begins working before the aircraft returns from a mission, said Mark Crawford, chief engineer for the JSF here. With this system, the aircraft relays key maintenance information to ground support people who can then assemble the right skills, technical data and aircraft spares needed to quickly return the jet to the air.

See AIR FORCE Page B2

SPACE & MISSILE

FEATURES



PHOTO BY 2ND LT. SARAH ARMSTRONG

Spectators enjoy the sun, surf and the sounds of the San Luis Obispo symphony at a concert in Avila Beach Resort Labor Day weekend. The next concert is Oct. 6. Visit the symphony's website at www.slosymphony.com for more information.

Destinations

Central Coast

By 2ND LT. SARAH ARMSTRONG
30th SW PA transition student

When my friend suggested we go to Pops by the Sea at Avila Beach, I wasn't quite sure what to expect. I'm fairly new to the Vandenberg area, but one thing I've really enjoyed about living here is being able to find something different and fun to do every weekend. This Labor Day weekend, my friends and I did just that.

Pops by the Sea is an outdoor

event that happens every year over Labor Day weekend and is performed by the San Luis Obispo symphony at Avila Beach Resort.

We were expecting mostly classical music, but the program included a wide variety of musical tunes from the television show *Hawaii Five-O's* theme song to Tchaikovsky's *Finale* and finished up with *God Bless America*.

With the often foggy, unpredictable weather around

Vandenberg, I never know when we might get a nice sunny day, but Sunday was absolutely perfect for a concert on the beach. The gates opened at 2:30 p.m., so we arrived around 2:45 and followed the signs into the resort golf course.

In the spirit of conservation, parking was free for carloads of four or more people otherwise it cost \$4 per vehicle. We bought our tickets ahead of time from one of the vendors we found listed in the local newspaper. The nearest

to us was Owens Music in Santa Maria. We bought lawn tickets for \$12 each, but tables were available complete with champagne for larger parties willing to pay \$40 or more.

Between the four of us, we picked out a nice spot on the grass, laid some blankets down and sat back to enjoy our picnic and the scenery until the concert started. People were not allowed to bring alcohol to the concert, and our coolers were checked before we entered, but wine and liquor were available to buy inside.

Umbrellas were banned in order to give the audience an unobstructed view, and even though we weren't sitting very close to the stage, we got a decent view of the orchestra. Speakers were also set up farther back, so the music could be heard easily throughout the park.

During the concert there was an auction to raise money for musical education that resulted in a donation of more than \$6,000. Raffle tickets were also on sale for various door prizes. All the services, equipment and help provided for the event came from donations and volunteers.

Overall, Pops by the Sea was a fun way to spend a Sunday afternoon. My friends and I really enjoyed the wide variety of musical sounds. Even without the entertainment, I'd recommend this yearly event just to experience a relaxing day at the beach, beautiful scenery and a picnic with friends and family.

The San Luis Obispo Symphony's next event is scheduled for Oct. 6. For tickets or more information, the symphony has a Web site at www.slosymphony.com.

Lounging lioness



PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS KARA MCCORMICK

A young lioness naps in the mid-day sun at the Santa Barbara Zoo. The zoo is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. every day. The cost admission is \$8 for adults and \$6 for children. For more information, visit the zoo's Web site at zooinfo@santabarbarazoo.org.

Community Calendar

EVENTS

6 FRI
Santa Barbara trolley tours - 90 minutes, daily, 10, 11:30 a.m.; 1, 2:30, 4 p.m. Call (805) 965-0353.

Harley-Davidson 100th Anniversary Open Road Tour - 1-11 p.m. today and Saturday, 1-9 p.m. Sunday at 9300 Cherry Ave., Fontana, Calif. Military price is \$20 with valid I.D. card. Regular price \$35.

7 SAT
Avenue of Flags Car & Motorcycle Show - 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. Saturday on Avenue of Flags in Buellton. Call (805) 688-7829.

"Orphans of the Storm" -- through Sept. 22 at the Great American Melodrama in Oceano. Tickets cost \$13 - \$16.50. Call (805) 489-2499.

"Chaps!" -- presented by PCPA Theatrefest through Sept. 21 at the Marian Theatre in Santa Maria. Call (805) 938-7731.

9 MON
Operation Baby Launch - 5 p.m. in the 30th Medical Group auditorium. Call 605-8254 or 606-8217.

11 WED
Lompoc Sept. 11 commemoration - 11 a.m. at the Olde Towne park gazebo at South H and Locust streets. Col. Robert M. Worley II, 30th Space Wing commander, is the keynote speaker. Vandenberg's honor guard and Patriot Voices will perform.

Lompoc Pops Orchestra Sept. 11 concert - 7 p.m. in Chapel 1. Call 606-5773.

15 SUN
Las Fiestas Patrias cultural festival - noon to 5:30 p.m. at the Historic Civic Center in Santa Maria. Call (805) 925-2403, Ext. 817.

Mega Case Lot Sale - Sept. 21-22 at the commissary.

21 SAT
Olde Towne Fair - 9 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. on H Street in Lompoc. Call 736-4567.

28 SAT
Central Coast Birding Rally - 7 a.m. - noon Oct. 4 - 6. Visit lpas.westhost.com/rally. Call (805) 925-0304.

CLASSES

One-on-One marriage enrichment

counseling - Call 606-9958.

9 MON
Jiu-Jitsu self-defense classes - 7-9 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays at the Unified Center for Martial Arts, 1766 S. Broadway in Santa Maria. Call (805) 934-2158.

Self-defense workshop - 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Monday and Tuesday for women and girls 12 years and older at the North County Rape Crisis and Child Protection Center. Call 736-8535.

Writing for results - Monday and Tuesday in Bldg 14007 room D-4. Call 605-5913.

MEETINGS

10 TUE
Single parents support group - 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. in the services center. Call 606-9958.

Space and Sea Girl Scouts - Call the Scout Hut, 605-2217 or 734-5545 and leave a message or call 606-1119.

11 WED
AL-ANON - 7 - 8 p.m. at the Vandenberg Family Support Center. Call 734-0784.

National Society of Military Widows - 1 p.m. Sept. 11. A guest speaker from the Genealogy Span Group speaks at 2 p.m. Call 606-5474.

12 THU
Titan Toastmasters - 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Thursdays in the base library. Call 606-1541, Ext. 3722.

19 THU
Vandenberg Top Three - noon in the services center. Call 605-6214.

Retirees Activities Office potluck luncheon - noon at the Retiree Activities Center. Call 606-5474.

American Red Cross Certified babysitters - Family support center is compiling a list for distribution to Vandenberg families seeking childcare services. Call 606-1607.

Accepting letters and resumes for head and assistant basketball coaches - Address letters to Amy Divelbiss, fitness center director, Pamela Coffey, assistant fitness center director or Rod Paronto, varsity director. Call 606-3833.

YOUTH

Youth soccer league needs volunteers - Call 606-9374 or the Youth Center, 606-2152.

6 SAT
Beginning Ballet Folklorico for children - Saturday - Sept. 28 at the Allan Hancock Santa Maria campus. Call (805) 922-6966.

13 FRI
Beginning Chinese Folk Dance for children - Sept. 13- Nov. 22 at the Allan Hancock Santa Maria campus. Call (805) 922-6966.

HEALTH

9 MON
HAWC's Relaxation Room - 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Monday - Friday. Call 606-2221.

Indoor cycling classes - 6 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays; noon Fridays; 4 p.m. Tuesdays and Wednesdays and 8 a.m. Saturdays in the services center. Call 606-7976.

10 TUE
Box aerobics classes - noon Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9 a.m. Saturdays. Call 606-7979.

Stress management class - 2 - 4 p.m. Tuesdays in the HAWC. Call 606-5338 to register for the eight-week course.

Sensible Weight Loss class - 90-minute class. The next class begins Thursday. Call the Health and Wellness Center, 606-2221.

DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE



Call
Airmen Against Drunk Driving
at 698-8822 or 698-8823 for a free ride home.

Chapel Notes

For information about other religious denominations and events, call the Chapel at 606-5773.

EVENTS

- ♦ **G.I. Java coffeehouse** - open 5 - 9 p.m. Monday-Saturday in the Delta Dormitory. To volunteer, call Staff Sgt. William Spencer, 606-5773.
- ♦ **9/11 meditation and remembrance** of Sept. 11 events - 1 p.m. Sept. 11 in Chapel 1. The Lompoc Pops Ensemble will be at the service. Call Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Gary Bomberger, 606-5773.
- ♦ **Lompoc Pops Orchestra United We Stand remembrance concert** - 7 p.m. Sept. 11 in Chapel 1. Call 606-5773.
- ♦ **Monthly prayer breakfast** - 6:30 p.m. Sept. 12 in the Chapel 1 Annex. Call Chaplain (Capt.) Mitchell Zydadlo, 606-5773.
- ♦ **Commanders and first sergeants luncheon** - 11:30 a.m. Sept. 19 in the Chapel 1 Annex. Call Chaplain (1st Lt.) Vebulon Beck, 606-5773 by Sept. 17.
- ♦ **Vandenberg food pantry drive** - first weekend of each month. Call 606-5773.

PROTESTANT

- ♦ **Chapel Community Night** - 5:30 - 7 p.m. Sundays in the religious education classrooms.
- ♦ **Brothers and Sisters in Christ** - 5:30 - 7 p.m. Sundays in the religious education classrooms. Call Jill Hembroff, 606-5773.
- ♦ **Women's Evening Study** - Call Julie Wittkowski, 734-3788.
- ♦ The new **apologetics Bible study group** - 7 p.m. Monday in the REA building.
- ♦ **Protestant adult and youth Bible study** - 7 p.m. Tuesday in the Chapel 1 Annex. Call Tech. Sgt. Mark McKinney, 605-7564.
- ♦ **Men's weekly Bible study** - 6 p.m. Wednesdays in the Breakers Dining Facility. Call 606-5773.
- ♦ The **Vandenberg AFB Officers' Christian Fellowship** - 7 p.m. Wednesdays. Call Christy Keana, 734-0696.
- ♦ Protestant Women of the Chapel **beginner quilting classes** - 10 a.m. Thursday in the Chapel 1 annex. Call Lucille McLain, 733-2630.

WORSHIP SERVICE TIMES

Praise and Worship - 8:30 a.m. in Chapel 2
Traditional Protestant - 11:30 a.m. in Chapel 1
Gospel - 11:30 a.m. in Chapel 2
Catholic Mass - 10 a.m. in Chapel 1
Daily Mass - 11:30 a.m. in Chapel 2
Saturday Mass - 5 p.m. in Chapel 2

- ♦ **Women's Saturday morning bible study** - 10 a.m. third Saturday of the month in the religious education admin building. Call Genette Howard, 734-1693.

CATHOLIC

- ♦ **New Bible study group** - 7 p.m. Mondays in the religious education administration building. Call Deborah Cotey, 734-4202.
- ♦ **Fellowship Thursdays** - 7 p.m. Thursdays in the religious education administration building. Call Deborah Cotey, 734-4202.
- ♦ **Tuesday daily Mass** - 11:30 a.m. Tuesdays throughout the summer in Chapel 2. Call Kelly Reape, 734-1437.

JEWISH

- ♦ **Jewish community Torah study session** - Sunday evening. Call Anita Friedman, 605-7564 or 736-5822.

At The Movies

All movies start at 7:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted. Doors are locked once show starts.

TODAY

Road to Perdition, R

A professional hit man devoted to his wife and two young boys leaves his sedate home life behind and embarks on a journey of revenge after his wife and youngest son are killed.

SATURDAY

3 p.m. Country Bears, G

A young bear cub being raised by a human parents leaves his adopted family to find his roots.

7:30 p.m. Road to Perdition, R

SUNDAY

3 p.m. Stuart Little II, PG

Plucky, pint-sized hero Stuart Little returns in this sequel to delight audiences with even more action-packed adventure.



Continued from Page A4

Crawford said that if a system, such as the aircraft’s radar, were to fail or sustain battle damage, the health management technology would signal an in-flight reconfiguration thus allowing the pilot to link to a wingman’s radar system to complete the mission. The reliability and fault-isolation data offered by the system will also help JSF maintenance crews identify when an aircraft is meeting mission and reconfiguration requirements.

“This will lead to reduced maintenance and supply cycle time and will make the most of our logistics resources,” said Crawford. “This means more sorties with fewer resources and the ability to do both safely.”

The fighter’s ground collision avoidance system also has been developed to assist a pilot in a situation where he or she might be task-saturated or temporarily incapacitated. If such a situation arises, the aircraft will automatically maneuver to avoid hitting terrain or obstacles.

The system uses digitally stored databases including one containing terrain representative data to predict when a collision with the ground is imminent, said Crawford. A fly-up is commanded prior to impact signaling the flight controls to execute an automatic fly-up. The mission computer terrain database can be updated flight to flight to support the current mission plan. Pilots will also have the ability to add man-made features to the terrain if needed, said Crawford.

The team is relying on lessons learned from the fighter’s concept demonstration phase, which ended in October 2001 with the Defense Department’s decision to safely develop the JSF, according to Joe Dowden, director of the JSF test force here.

In all, the joint JSF flight-test program will conduct an estimated 11,000 flight-test hours before turning the aircraft over to those who will fly it into combat. The first test aircraft is expected to touch down here for developmental testing in 2005. An additional 18 are expected to arrive once the program moves into operational testing in 2010.

CAD School produces Hercules warriors

By Staff Sgt. Chyenne Griffin

314th Airlift Wing Public Affairs
■LITTLE ROCK, Ark.—The Air Mobility Warfare Center’s Combat Aerial Delivery School exists to produce the best of the best in the C-130 Hercules arena.

With locations at Fairchild AFB, Wash., and Nellis AFB, Nev., CADS has three divisions and more than 100 people focused on developing and maintaining combat readiness and capability for C-130 crews.

Half of the CADS training mission here is the Weapons Instructor Course.

“We produce the top one percent of C-130 tactics professionals in the Air Force,” said Lt. Col. Robert Swisher, WIC commander.

This top one percent includes the select few given the opportunity to attend the more than five-month flying course for instructor pilots and navigators from C-130 squadrons throughout the Air Force, Swisher said.

The course consists of five phases: advanced tactical maneuvers, aerial delivery, immature theatre airlift, joint airlift operations and mission employment.

“The training is very intensive,” said Capt. Todd White, aerial delivery flight commander. “It’s a one-on-one, hands-on course. We take some of the best and elevate them to experts.”

The course comprises more than 425 academic hours and 95 flying hours. There are two classes a year at the school, with four to nine graduates in each class.

“These graduates will go on to become primary weapons officers, running the weapons and tactics office at squadron or wing level,” said White. “They will be responsible for teaching other crewmembers the lessons they learned.”

The joint operations directorate is the other half of CADS mission here. Its main mission is to support Joint Readiness Training Center exercises. The exercises are joint ventures with the Army that provide realistic training for light infantry and airborne units and for C-141 Starlifter, C-130 and C-17

Globemaster III crews. JOD teams plan, coordinate, direct and execute nine exercises a year.

Little Rock is a staging base, or starting point, for various units across the Air Force to fly into Ft. Polk, La., to train with Army units.

While the Army runs various training scenarios for their troops, the Air Force’s role is to provide airlift support. During the year, more than 1,180 container-delivery-system bundles and 7,000 personnel are airdropped at JRTC exercises.

Other countries are interested in the high level of training. Canadian, British, French, Australian and New Zealand military forces, among others, have all requested to participate in the training. (Courtesy of Air Education and Training Command News Service)

Program develops future AF scientists

By Michael Kelly

Air Force Research Laboratory
WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB, Ohio—While their friends were flipping burgers at fast food joints or hanging out at the mall this summer, a group of young scientists were experimenting with their futures in the Air Force Research Laboratory here.

Working as research assistants, 27 “Wright Scholars” joined a team of scientist and engineer mentors in the lab’s propulsion, air vehicles and human effectiveness directorates for 10 weeks of hands-on exploration designed to “foster learning in the realm of science and engineering,” said John Horner, propulsion operations division program manager.

The paid internship gave the students, from 19 different high schools, an opportunity to assist with on-site research and apply their knowledge of chemistry, physics and mathematics to various types of engineering careers, he said. They also participated in a jet engine propulsion course taught at the Air Force Institute of Technology and attended weekly lectures with experts who discussed propulsion and power technologies.

The weekly lecture series was a surprising success, according to Horner. Topping the list of favorite subjects at the program’s Friday lectures were presentations on pulsed detonation engines, scramjets, optics and lasers, combustion, rockets and plasma research.

But the program’s biggest payoff, according to Horner, himself a product of a similar internship program more than 30 years ago, was exposing these “enthusiastic and exceptional” students to the wonders of hands-on research.

“I co-op’d in college when I was studying to become a mechanical engineer at the University of Akron (Ohio) and it was a wonderful experience,” he said. “I worked in the B.F. Goodrich research lab and factory. I actually designed tires. Through that experience I realized

what a valuable program any kind of internship program is and I tried to develop similar programs in this directorate.”

When given the challenge to establish a work program that would show top high school students what engineering is all about, Horner knew he wanted to give today’s youth the same kind of hands-on experience he benefited from.

“We also wanted to give them a chance to explore some of the career opportunities the Air Force has to offer,” he said.

“We’re an aging workforce and a significant number of our scientists and engineers will be eligible for retirement in the next five years,” Horner explained. “That’s what really motivated us in this program and other summer intern programs.

Senior Air Force leaders have seen the wisdom in that approach to developing the next generation of scientists and engineers and fully support the concept.

“We truly believe any effort to develop future scientists and engineers will pay big dividends toward our own future, and to that of the Air Force,” said Col. Alan Janiszewski, AFRL propulsion director.

Judging from the number of students eager to return next year, Horner has been able to generate some hope for the command’s future scientist and engineer workforce.

Twenty of the 22 juniors who participated are returning next year to continue their research and pursue a possible career as an Air Force scientist or engineer. The five seniors going off to college will be invited to apply and take advantage of summer internships in the lab. All are hoping to return, Horner said. (Courtesy of AFMC News Service)

Peterson to welcome USNORTHCOM Oct. 1

By 2nd Lt. Suzy Kohout

21st Space Wing Public Affairs

■PETERSON AFB, Colo. -- Peterson is the location for the newest unified command, U.S. Northern Command headquarters.

USNORTHCOM will be responsible for homeland defense.

The new command will oversee the land, maritime and aerospace aspects of U.S. homeland defense.

On May 8, former Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld announced U.S. Air Force General Ed Eberhart, NORAD and U.S. Space Command commander, as the President’s nominee to become the first commander of

Avoiding gridlock



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. GARY HICKS

WASHINGTON — As the morning sun rises over the nation’s capital, Chief Master Sgt. David Power, an Air National Guard pararescue and combat control functional manager for the National Guard Bureau in Arlington, Va., paddles his sea kayak across the Potomac River to his duty station from his home at Bolling AFB, D.C.

USNORTHCOM.

Confirmed by the U.S. Senate on June 28, the new commander will be responsible to the President and Secretary of Defense. The Office of the Secretary of Defense will work directly with the other cabinet agencies and federal government organizations.

“It is an honor to be the first commander of U.S. Northern Command,” said Eberhart. “I look forward to serving the nation in this role. Our job will be to preserve the nation’s security by defending the American people where they live and work, and to support civilian authorities as needed.

“We will also prepare for the inevitability of uncertainty and surprise,” Eberhart said. “This will be a team effort from start to finish – our servicemen and women are ready for the challenge.”

The new command is scheduled to begin operations Oct. 1.

“Having NORTHCOM here continues the focus on Peterson as arguably the most vital hub of our combined nation’s defense,” said Brig. Gen. Duane Deal, 21st Space Wing commander. “With our Major Command headquarters here, plus USSPACE and NORAD, we’re already a premier installation, second in VIP-type visits transiting here only to Andrews AFB.”

The command will provide consolidated oversight of the Department of Defense’s roles in the broader homeland security effort.

Once operational, NORTHCOM will integrate the land, maritime and aerospace aspects of homeland defense with the aerospace warning and control capabilities NORAD has provided to Canada and the U.S. for 44 years.

NORAD and NORTHCOM will be two separate entities.

NORAD will provide the means

to accomplish the aerospace defense mission via its existing binational structure and operating procedures.

NORTHCOM and NORAD will ensure the effective and efficient accomplishment of military defense of the U.S. homeland, while simultaneously continuing to provide Canada and the U.S. the strategic advantages garnered from the two nations’ ongoing partnership to protect the skies of North America.

The command’s responsibility will encompass the continental U.S., Alaska, Canada, Mexico, and the surrounding water out to approximately 500 nautical miles. It will also include the Gulf of Mexico, Cuba, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Choice of the headquarters site was based on several considerations: military effectiveness, existing facilities, location, force protection, infrastructure and costs.

“The 21st Space Wing is supporting the new command in many significant ways, and that support will continue,” said Deal. “Most visibly is perhaps our working the construction project and building occupancy for NORTHCOM headquarters.”

Peterson and Cheyenne Mountain have worked together to house those who’ve already arrived to lay the foundation of the command, and our team has ensured the command has the qualified manning it needs for its mission, said Deal.

“Establishing the extremely critical information support structure has kept our communications team busy,” said Deal. “Add to those the type of support Team Pete already provides to the base – services, medical, engineering, transportation, supply, etc. You get an idea of how involved we are today,

and will be in the future.”

Deployed unit holds its first retreat ceremony

By Staff Sgt. Marc Barnes

321st Air Expeditionary Group Public Affairs

OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM — The 321st Air Expeditionary Group Honor Guard lowered the American flag during the group’s first official retreat ceremony Aug. 31.

Three flights representing the group saluted as the honor guard lowered and folded Old Glory during the late-afternoon ceremony at a forward-deployed location.

Chief Master Sgt. Ed Saur, the 321st AEG command chief, coordinated the event by first assembling the things needed for the event.

The chief began his search for a suitable flagpole on the Internet, but eventually resorted to assembling it from items donated by various units. That held much more meaning for American servicemembers here than a “store-bought” product, said the chief.

“I asked for a flagpole, and everyone exceeded my expectations,” the chief said.

The next step, forming an honor guard, had already been done. Staff Sgt. Chris Orbits, the 321st AEG safety noncommissioned officer, had already assembled and trained a base honor guard for promotion, award and change-of-command ceremonies.

“We all thought this was a beautiful sight,” he said. “At our home stations, we’re used to seeing the flag, so we sometimes get complacent about it. We didn’t realize how much we missed it until we hadn’t seen it for a while. It was an honor to be a part of. The feeling of patriotism is overwhelming.”



PHOTO BY JOHN VAN WINKLE

Falcons quarterback Chance Harridge crosses the goal line to score his first touchdown of the season, and put the Air Force Academy ahead 7-0. Harridge went on to score a second touchdown in the Falcons’ 52-3 destruction of Northwestern University.

Falcons open season with 52-3 win

BY JOHN VAN WINKLE
Air Force Academy Public Affairs
■**COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo.** — The Air Force Academy Falcon football team started its 2002 season in decisive fashion Aug. 31 with 523 yards of total offense in its 52-3 win over Northwestern University.

The Falcons have new starters at quarterback, tight end, wide receiver, and four of five offensive line positions, and the entire defensive line, but silenced any doubts by rushing for 152 yards while limiting Northwestern to 25 yards on 11 plays in the first quarter.

Air Force went on to finish the game with 476 yards rushing, using that running attack to control the clock and limit Northwestern’s offensive opportunities.

“I’m pleased that we were able to control the tempo of the game,” said Falcons head coach Fisher DeBerry. “The defense, particularly in the first half, was able to get them off the field in three-and-outs, and then our offense was able to take the ball and control it, and we had nine-, 11-, 12-play drives that took a lot of time off the clock. That was our game plan.

“We were able to maximize use of the clock so we could run it

down and minimize the number of plays they would have,” he said.

“They (Northwestern) were averaging about 88 plays per game last year, and [there is] no way in the world that we felt like we could win the football game if we allowed them to run 88 plays,” said DeBerry, now in his 19th season of coaching Falcon football.

The key to the Falcon rushing attack is something not seen in most Division I college football programs today: an option-based running attack.

“Everywhere else, quarterbacks might be sitting back in the pocket and throwing downfield, but we run the triple option and I think we did a great job of it today,” said Falcons quarterback Chance Harridge.

This was Harridge’s first collegiate start, and he proved the coaches’ confidence in him as the starter was well placed, by rushing for 94 yards and two touchdowns, and passing for 47 yards and another touchdown.

“If we execute, we can do it every week,” said Harridge. “It doesn’t matter what the defense does, it’s all on us. If we don’t make turnovers and if we keep the penalties down, we can do anything.”

Despite putting the ball in the

hands of 20 different offensive players and beating a Big Ten Conference team by 49 points, DeBerry is cautious about making too much about the season’s first victory.

“Now, this is just one game, and we’ve got 11 more to go,” cautioned DeBerry. “And we’ve got to make a heck of a lot of improvement. There’s some turnovers that we didn’t get, and we had two pre-snap penalties. We should’ve had — at times — bigger plays than we did. We’ve got a lot of work to do. But I believe the team improves most during the season between the first and second game. And I say that all the time, but I really truly believe that, and I truly believe that this football team will work hard.

“And I know we’ll have to be better next week because we have a team coming in here that hasn’t been too good to us for the past three years,” added DeBerry.

The Falcons’ season continues Sept. 7 when they face Mountain West Conference foe University of New Mexico.

The Falcons have lost their last three games against the Lobos and will seek to even the score in Falcon Stadium. Currently, kickoff is set for 1 p.m. MDT.

The Pre-game meal

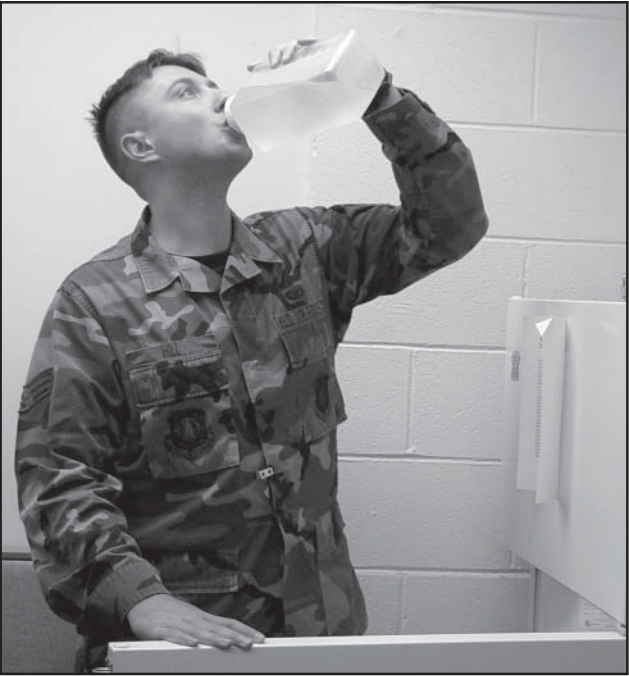
fitness tips by Tyson Grier



Avoid
coffee and tea.

Eat three to four hours before competition.

Drink
plenty of water.



Eat a meal that primarily contains complex carbohydrates.

Softball Scores

Over 30 scores

Women’s scores

30 CS
30 SFS forfeit



30 SFS 17
576th FLTS 9

NRO 28
TRANS 10

30 SFS 17
30 CS 9

DET 9
381st forfeit

576th FLTS 9
30 CS 2



Want to see more sports in your



Tell us what your team’s up to! Submit stories and ideas to:

*space&missiletimes
@vandenberg.af.mil*



2002 Air Force Falcons football schedule

Date	Opponent	Time
Saturday	New Mexico	noon
Sept. 21	California	2 p.m.
Sept. 28	Utah	noon
Oct. 5	Navy	noon
Oct. 12	BYU	T.B.A.
Oct. 19	Notre Dame	6 p.m.
Oct. 26	Wyoming	noon
Oct. 31	Colorado St.	4:35 p.m.
Nov. 9	Army	10:05 a.m.
Nov. 16	UNLV	T.B.A.
Nov. 23	San Diego St.	T.B.A.



■Home games are in **bold**.
■Game times are in Pacific Standard Time.

Rollerhockey season is coming!

Teams are forming now. Call your unit sports representative or the fitness center at 606-3833 for more information.



Soccer players...

The Varsity Soccer Team is looking to add a few more comitted and talented players to its roster. In particular, the co-ed team needs female players who will compete in an Arena Soccer League to be held on Tuesday evenings at the Santa Maria Valley YMCA. The men’s team is also looking for additional players to play Sundays. Call Scott Vincent at 605-0755 for details.

30th Services News

YOUTH CENTER

Back-to-School TEEN DANCE!



SATURDAY
8 - 10 pm.

Dance is free to all youth center members and eligible guests!
Call the Youth Center, 606-0276 for more information.

SERVICES CENTER

BED RACE



Sept. 21 - 11 a.m.

in the
Services Center Parking Lot

Visit the Services Center for sign up packages with bed specifications and rules. Sign up deadline is 4:30 p.m. Sept. 16. Call Mike Renner for more information, 606-7976.

Get ready for the Lompoc Bedrace to be held Sept. 28!

BREAKERS DINING

BIRTHDAY MEAL

hosted by the 30th SERVICES SQUADRON



Who can attend?

All enlisted personnel on BAS or mealcard and guest (military or dependent).

What is the Birthday Meal?

The Birthday Meal is a program designed to show appreciation for VAFB enlisted personnel.

Where is it?

Breakers dining facility, History Room.

When is it?

The next meal is Sept. 26. Doors open at 5 p.m. Dinner at 5:30 p.m. served by base senior leaders. For more information, contact Senior Airman Jennifer Kottke, 606-3219 or contact a first sergeant to sign up!

YOUTH SPORTS

YOUTH SOCCER OPENING CEREMONY

Youth Soccer Field, Sept. 21, 9 a.m.
Call Kristi, 606-9374 for more information.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

for the following upcoming youth 4-H programs:
Gardening Leader
Arts & Crafts Clover Bud Leader
Call Kristi, 606-9374 for more information.

GOLF

FRIDAY

Private Tournament, 10 a.m. - noon.

SATURDAY

Men's Club Tournament

SUNDAY

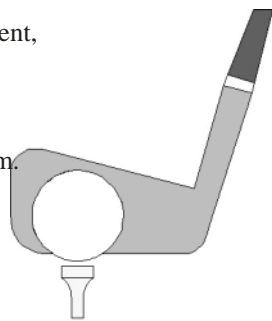
Scotch Foursome Tournament,
10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

TUESDAY & THURSDAY

Intramural Golf, noon - 1 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Ladies Priority,
8:32 - 9:04 a.m.



Pacific Coast Club



Come join us for our BIG KICKOFF!
★ COOL PRIZES! ★

WIN A TRIP TO SEE:
• 49ers vs. Cowboys
• Super Bowl
• Pro Bowl
• San Francisco to meet 49ers Terrell Owens

**★ PLAY PUNCH & PUNT!
★ HALF-TIME FOOTBALL TOSS! ★**

MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL

5 - 10 p.m. at the Club
featuring special menu
and special prizes!

Go to www.30svs.com for full list of rules and how to play!

Sponsored in part by Miller Brewing Company, American Airlines, +Battery+ Energy Drink, Destination Arlington, First USA and Double Tree Alana Waikiki (Pro Bowl only).
No Federal endorsement of commercial sponsors intended.

MONDAY NIGHT SCHEDULE

Monday, Sept. 9
Pittsburgh at New England

Monday, Sept. 16
Philadelphia at Washington

Monday, Sept. 23
St. Louis at Tampa Bay

Monday, Sept. 30
Denver at Baltimore

Monday, Oct. 7
Green Bay at Chicago

Monday, Oct. 14
San Francisco at Seattle

Monday, Oct. 21
Indianapolis at Pittsburgh

Monday, Oct. 28
New York Giants at Philadelphia

Monday, Nov. 4
Miami at Green Bay

Monday, Nov. 11
Oakland at Denver

Monday, Nov. 18
Chicago at St. Louis

Monday, Nov. 25
Philadelphia at San Francisco

Monday, Dec. 2
New York Jets at Oakland

Monday, Dec. 9
Chicago at Miami

Monday, Dec. 16
New England at Tennessee

Monday, Dec. 23
Pittsburgh at Tampa Bay

Monday, Dec. 30
San Francisco at St. Louis



ELECTRIFIED MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

*Coming
in October...*

**Join the Club and be eligible to win the
newest, coolest electronics!**
Over \$200,000 in prizes!

*Just pick up an application from
the Pacific Coast Club and sign up
Sept. 3 - Dec. 20
to be eligible
for the random drawings.*

**Current members are al-
ready entered to win!**

VANDENBERG AFB
SERVICES
Commod Support & Community Service



The Pacific Coast Club
will be improving the value of Club Membership
with this exciting new program!

Members First enhances the value of club membership with exclusive discounts. Starting Oct. 1, club members receive a minimum \$2 discount on lunch and dinner meals, and a \$2 minimum discount on all prorated functions. Plus, members receive a 10 percent discount on 'personal' functions they book with the club, such as weddings and birthdays.

It pays to be a club member!

Cook-Your-Own Steak or Chicken!

Sept. 13

5 - 7 p.m. in both lounges
\$8 members - \$11 nonmembers

FITNESS

BODY BAR BASICS STRETCHING CLASS

Today, 2 p.m., Fitness Center
Limited space. Free.
Call, 606-3834
for more information.

WORKOUT with a PERSONAL TRAINER
Every Monday beginning this week through
Sept. 30 from 5 - 7 p.m. Free.

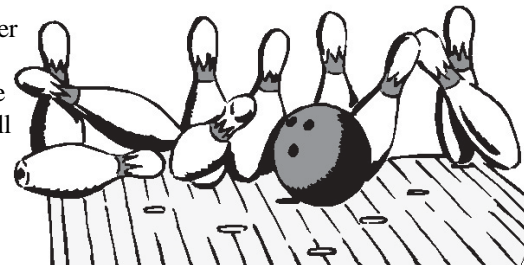
NEEDED: VARSITY HOCKEY COACH
Call, 606-3834 for information.



BOWLING CENTER

All winter leagues start the first week of September. Those who haven't signed up yet can roll over to the Bowling Center and join up. It's a great way to get out during the winter and have some fun. Squadron teams stop by the Fitness Center with letters of intent. Build up those commander's points for the squadron by participating in the intramural bowling league! Call the Vandenberg Bowling Center, 606-3209 for more information.

NOTICE: The Bowling Center is now open Sundays beginning Sept. 8. Hours are noon - 7 p.m. All bowling will be \$1 per game per person. Shoe rental is \$1. Bring the family in on Sunday and enjoy the fun of bowling!



Artist unveils Sept. 11 painting at Pentagon ceremony

Painting’s power captures spirit of Air Force response

By Tech. Sgt. Tim Dougherty
Air Force Print News

■ When Air Force Art Program officials commissioned artist Rick Herter to create two large-scale paintings depicting America’s response to the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, Herter envisioned images that would help to dispel any thoughts that the country had been unprepared.

The paintings, titled “First Pass, Defenders Over Washington” and “Ground Zero, Eagles on Station,” were unveiled Sept. 4 by Secretary of the Air Force Dr. James G. Roche and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper during a ceremony at the Pentagon.

Jumper commended the artist for his work, adding that the work is a tribute to those who have flown combat patrols since Sept. 11.

“The power of Rick’s art captures the spirit of the Air Force’s response to the attacks on the morning of Sept. 11,” Jumper said. “In those airplanes were Air Force pilots who had to contemplate doing the unthinkable, and that is having to confront one of our own airplanes, over our own skies and filled with our own citizens, but flown by terrorists. His art does justice to the many men and women who have flown vigilantly over the skies of America since Sept. 11.”

Herter is quick to point out that the airplanes he shows in his art were airborne before the hijacked airplanes struck their targets.

“What I want these paintings to show was our response that morning was quick and rapid,” Herter

**“In those airplanes
were Air Force pilots
who had to
contemplate doing
the unthinkable ...”**

Gen. John Jumper
Air Force Chief of Staff

said. “If you look at the timelines and do the research, you’ll see that the Air Force had planes in the air before the airliners impacted the buildings. Our guys were there. This is something that no one could have prepared for, but once it happened, our Air Force had the skies secured and protected.”

Herter is well known in the Air Force for doing realistic portrayals and paying great attention to detail. He is a member of the Air Force Art Program and several of his paintings are already displayed on the walls in the Pentagon. Because of his reputation and talent, Herter was selected as the artist to recreate the view of Sept. 11 from the airman’s perspective, said Russell Kirk, Air Force Art Program director.

Herter put more than 700 hours of work into the paintings over the past 10 months. Corporate sponsorship from Boeing and Rolls Royce allowed him to devote all his time to the project.

The painting “First Pass, Defenders Over Washington” shows Capt. Dean Eckman of the North Dakota Air National Guard’s 119th Fighter Wing as he arrives over the nation’s capital and makes his first pass over the Pentagon. In the painting “Ground Zero, Eagles on Station,” Lt. Col. Tim Duffy of the Massachusetts Air National Guard’s 102nd Fighter Wing makes a turn over the World Trade Center at about 3,000 feet.

The paintings are now part of the Air Force Art Program collection and will be displayed in the Pentagon on the walls of the 9th corridor between the “C” and “D” Rings.



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. C. TODD LOPEZ

Artist Rick Herter speaks at the unveiling of his painting, “First Pass, Defenders Over Washington,” at the Pentagon on Sept. 4. Herter painted two portraits depicting the Air Force’s first responses to the Sept. 11 attacks on America. He took 10 months to paint the works, which were commissioned by the Air Force Art program.



**No one --
Comes close**